Housing Board For Agricultural Workers

2130. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian National Rural Labour Federation has appealed to Government for setting up of a Housing Board, exclusively for agricultural workers;

(b) whether opinion of State Governments in this regard has been obtained;

(c) if so, what is their reaction thereto; and

(d) the decision taken by Government for setting up such a Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARAMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) The question does not arise.

Development of Information Networks By NISSAT

2131. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken up development of various information/ library networks by the NISSAT;

(b) whether desired results have been achieved by various networks like DELNET, CALIBNET, BONET, etc.;

(c) how many institutions are members of each network and what number of bibliographical records have been created by each network;

(d) whether it is a fact that the NISSAT programme has slowed down due to poor financial assistance; and

(e) if so, whether Government would extend necessary financial assistance to NISSAT?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. The National Information System for Science & Technology (NISSAT) under Department of Scientific & Industrial Research has initiated library network development activities, viz. ADINET in Ahmedabad, BONET in Bombay, CALIBNET in Calcutta, DELNET in New Delhi, MYLIBNET in Mysore and PUNENET in Pune.

(b) Yes, Sir. The ultimate goal of these information/library network is to interlink the libraries in a metropolitan area such that users could access information irrespective of its location, format, medium, language, script etc.

The development of such network requires actions on several areas such as training, rationalization of information resources, diffusion of standards, preparation of union lists, generation of database services etc., apart from setting up of hardware, software and communicaion facilities.

The various information/library networks are in the process of development and are at different stages of operaion.

All the networks offer electronic mail facility, CE-ROM database services and access to Internet. The PUNENET also provides access to individual libray catalogues at their site and CALIBNET offers online search sevices on the international datahosts. Besides, CALIBNET dwelled on the choice of the bibliographic record formats and the functional specifications of library automation software. Delhi libraries have computerized a large number of

catalogue records of monographs. Union lists of current subscriptions of serials have been developed in Ahmedabad, Calcutta, Delhi, Mysore, and Pune; beside these, a union catalogue of the conference proceedings has been developed in Calcutta. BONET, DELNET and PUNENET have developed bibliographic software, while CALIBNET has generated a commercial library automation and networking package.

(c) The details regarding number of institutional members and number of bibliographical records in each network is as follows :

Network	No. of Participataing Institutions	No. of bibliographic records created
ADINET	22	80,000 (monograph)
BONET, Bombay	27	3,475 (periodical)
CALIBNET, Calcutta	9	3,267 (periodical) 16,000 (monograph) 10,900 (conference proceedings) 4,200 (periodicals)
DELNET, Delhi	67	1,68,00 (books) 12,089 (periodicals)
MYLIBNET, Mysore	16	25,000 (monograph) 4,080 (periodicals)
PUNENET, Pune	58	90,200 (monograph) 7,000 (periodicals)

(d) No, Sir. NISSAT strives to develop self-sustaining systems. With that end in view, for information/library networks, NISSAT only goes to the extent of setting up general infrastructural facilities like network service centres including hardware, software, manpower and other organization requirements, communications etc. The Participating institutions are to arrange their own terminal hardware software manpower and data conversion in the light of the changes in the implementation strategy.

(e) The Government would continue to provide necessary financial assistance to NISSAT programmes.

ADB Loan for Renewable Energy Projects

2132. DR D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Asian Development Bank has agareed to provide $ 150 million aid for financing renewable energy projects through Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency;

(b) if so, what are the main projects likely to be undertaken with this loan;

(c) by when work on those projects is likely to start;

(d) whether the IREDA has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the ADB to carry out studies in specific renewable energy sectors; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?